

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter having a plurality of resonant cavities ~~(15)~~ such that an inner ~~(18)~~ wall separates two adjoining resonant cavities ~~(15)~~ which have top and bottom walls and which are coupled by means of a coupling (16) means, characterised in that the inner ~~(18)~~ wall includes a slot defined by at least one edge surface and having a dimension less than the distance between said top and bottom walls ~~is configured to include a slot (20) such that the coupling (16) means makes electrical contact with at least said an edge surface of the slot (20).~~

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1; wherein the edge surface of the slot ~~(20)~~ is the a horizontal edge surface extending in a direction substantially parallel to said top wall.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 2; wherein the coupling ~~(16)~~ means and a vertical plane defined by the slot ~~(20)~~ are perpendicular.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 3; wherein both the inner ~~(18)~~ wall and the coupling ~~(16)~~ means are made of metallic material.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1; each cavity (15) having a resonator (14).

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 5; wherein the resonator (14) is a dielectric resonator.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 5; wherein the resonator (14) is a coaxial resonator.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 4, wherein the slot (20) ~~being~~ is located in ~~the~~ an upper edge surface of the inner (18)-wall and has a closed bottom defined by said inner wall.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~D~~direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 8, each inner (18)-wall being in contact with an upper lid, surrounding walls, other inner walls and a bottom lid of ~~the~~ a housing (11) of the filter.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~Dielectric~~ direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 9, a mechanical fastening (17) means being adapted to fasten each coupling (16) means to each inner (18)-wall.

11. (Currently Amended) A Dielectric resonator filter according to claim 10, the mechanical fastening (17) means being a screw.

12. (Currently Amended) A Dielectric direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, the coupling (16) means and the inner (18) wall being made in a single piece of the same material such as a metallic material.

13. (Currently Amended) A Coupling means direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 1, wherein said coupling means comprises a probe.

14. (Currently Amended) A Coupling means direct coupled resonator filter according to claim 13, wherein said the probe being adapted to present has different portions with different cross sections.